

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 94-232-C - ORDER NO. 94-425 *lc*
MAY 11, 1994

IN RE: Request of Ridge Telephone Company, Inc.) ORDER
 for Approval of Revisions to its General) APPROVING
 Customer Services Tariff (REF: TN 94-47).) MODIFIED
) TARIFF

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the March 4, 1994 filing of Ridge Telephone Company, Inc. (Ridge or the Company). Ridge filed a request for approval of revisions to its General Customer Services Tariff. The purpose of the filing was to: (1) discontinue IMTS and Paging Service; (2) revise the Centrex Service offering to concur with the Centrex offering of Pond Branch Telephone Company; (3) revise the Coin Telephone Service section of the tariff to increase the per message rate from \$0.10 to \$0.25; and (4) to introduce new service offerings for searching special or easy numbers for customers and for providing Off Premise Extension Line Service.

By letter dated March 14, 1994, the Commission's Executive Director instructed Ridge to publish one time, a prepared Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation in the area affected by the Company's tariff filing. The Notice of Filing indicated the nature of Ridge's tariff filing and advised all

interested parties of the manner and time in which to file the appropriate pleadings for participation in this proceeding. In addition, the Executive Director required that Ridge, by direct mailing, provide the Notice of Filing to current subscribers of IMTS and Paging Service on or before March 28, 1994, and to certify to the Executive Director that such has been accomplished. Ridge submitted an affidavit indicating that it had complied with the instructions of the Executive Director.

A Petition to Intervene was filed by the South Carolina Public Communications Association (SCPCA).

On May 9, 1994, the Commission received a letter from John F. Beach, Esquire, representing the SCPCA. In that letter Beach stated that SCPCA has reached an agreement with Ridge regarding the tariff filing. This was confirmed by Ridge. Based upon the agreement, SCPCA moved to withdraw its intervention in the Docket and requested that the Commission approve the tariff as amended at its next regularly scheduled meeting. Attached to the Beach letter was an additional copy of a letter dated May 5, 1994, from John F. Beach, Esquire, to L.B. Spearman, Manager of Regulatory and External Affairs for Ridge, which set forth the agreed upon modifications to the tariff as filed. This letter is attached hereto as Appendix A.

The Commission has considered this matter and believes that the modifications to the tariff are appropriate, and therefore, adopts the tariff as modified by the May 5, 1994 letter. The Commission believes that the adoption of this tariff is in the

public interest. The Commission also grants the Motion to Withdraw of SCPCA based on the adoption of this modified tariff.

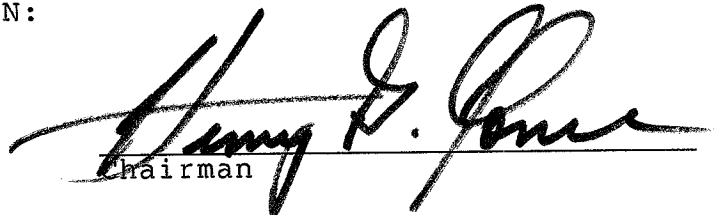
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The tariff submitted by Ridge Telephone Company, Inc. is hereby adopted as modified by the May 5, 1994 letter of John F. Beach, Esquire, to L.B. Spearman.

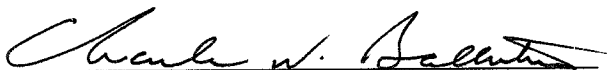
2. The Motion to Withdraw intervention of SCPCA is granted.

3. That this Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)

JOHN F. BEACH, P.A.

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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May 5, 1994

VIA FACSIMILE AND FIRST CLASS MAIL SERVICE

Mr. L.B. Spearman
Manager, Regulatory & External Affairs
Ridge Telephone Company, Inc.
1660 Juniper Springs Rd.
Gilbert SC 29045

RE: Ridge Telephone Company
Tariff No. 94-47

Dear Ben:

After we met today at the Commission, I had an opportunity to discuss these matters with my client. Based upon that discussion, the SCPCA is willing to withdrawal its intervention in this proceeding if the tariff is modified as follows:

1. S7.3.2c. (page 6) through S7.3.3b (page 12) will be deleted.
2. S7.3.5a (page 13) will be amended to reflect "a monthly recurring charge of 1.4 times the business access line rate..."
3. S7.3.5.b.4 (page 14) will be amended to read as follows:

The subscriber to RTPTAS will be responsible for all charges for toll or local calls made at the COCOT location. It will be their responsibility to resolve any billing disputes with the toll provider or carrier. This provision does not apply when the company has breached its obligation to accurately provide third number, collect and/or operator screening, when the RTPTAS subscriber was subscribing to these services at the time that the subject disputed calls took place.

4. The SCPCA is willing to agree to a provision relating to directory assistance as follows:

The caller (user) will be able to access an operator, 911 where available, and the local exchange company directory-assistance operator. The charge to the end user for local

(continued . . .)

Mr. L. B. Spearman
May 5, 1994
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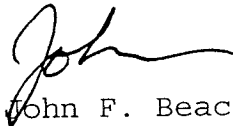
directory assistance provided by local exchange company operators shall not exceed 25¢, with the exception of those areas specified in S7.1.4B., where the charge to the end user for these directory assistance calls shall not exceed 10¢. The charge to the end user for intraLATA or interLATA directory assistance shall not exceed those rates approved for the LEC or interexchange carrier providing these services.

However, a similar provision must be added to Section S7.1.4 requiring Ridge Telephone Company to charge for directory assistance from its payphones, in compliance with Commission Order No. 93-657 in Docket No. 93-121-C..

Upon completion of these revisions, the SCPCA will withdraw its intervention in the above referenced tariff. The SCPCA and I appreciate the cooperation that you have exhibited in settling this matter.

With kind regards, I am

Yours truly,



John F. Beach

JFB/car
cc: Mr. Gene R. Stewart
scpca\spearman.ltr